

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. A method for labeling a plurality of syringe bodies, comprising:
interconnecting a belt to a plurality of a syringe bodies in a predetermined orientation;
placing contents-related information on an interconnected belt segment for each
given one of said plurality of syringe bodies; and

10 separating said belt between each of said plurality of syringe bodies to define an
interconnected flap on each of said plurality of syringe bodies.

 2. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said belt is of a pliable construction,
and wherein said separating step comprises:

severing said belt between adjacent ones of said plurality of syringe bodies.

15 3. A method as recited in Claim 3, wherein for each of said plurality of syringe
bodies said placing step comprises:

printing said contents-related information on a label; and,

affixing said label to said interconnected belt segment.

20 4. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein for each said plurality of syringe bodies
said placing step comprises:

printing said contents-related information directly on said interconnected belt segment.

 5. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said contents-related information
comprises at least one of the following:

information regarding a type of fluid contained in the syringe body;

25 information regarding an amount of a fluid contained in the syringe body;

information regarding a fill date for the contents of the syringe body; and,

information regarding handling and storage instructions for the syringe body.

6. A method as recited in Claim 4, wherein at least a portion of said contents-related information is bar coded.

7. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said method further comprises:

5 packaging said plurality of syringe bodies in a container after said interconnecting step and prior to said separating and placing steps; and,

unpackaging said plurality of syringe bodies from said container prior to said separating and placing steps.

8. A method as recited in Claim 7, further comprising:

10 sterilizing said plurality of syringe bodies after to said packaging step.

9. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said interconnecting step comprises:

attaching at least one continuous layer of a pliable material between and about at least a portion of each of said plurality of syringe bodies.

10. A method as recited in Claim 9, wherein said at least one continuous layer is

15 substantially transparent.

11. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said interconnector step comprises:

attaching opposing layers to define said belt, wherein said opposing layers are adjoined in fact-to-face relation between adjacent ones of said plurality of syringe bodies and wrapped about opposing sides of the barrels of each of said plurality of syringe bodies.

20 12. An apparatus as recited in Claim 11, wherein at least a first one of said opposing layers is opaque, and where said placing step comprises:

printing said contents-related information on said opaque layer.

13. An apparatus as recited in Claim 12, wherein a second one of said opposing layers is substantially transparent.

14. An apparatus for labeling a plurality of syringe bodies interconnected in series by a belt, comprising:

a plurality of holders for holding said plurality of syringe bodies; and,

a separation member for separating said belt between adjacent ones of said plurality of syringe bodies to define an interconnected flap on each of the plurality of syringe bodies; and,

a labeling member for placing contents-related information on an interconnected belt segment for each given one of said plurality of syringe bodies.

15. An apparatus as recited in Claim 14, wherein said belt defines a predetermined spacing between adjacent ones of said plurality of syringe bodies, and wherein said plurality of holders are separated by a distance corresponding with said predetermined spacing.

16. An apparatus as recited in Claim 14, further comprising:

a driven support member for moving at least one of said separation member and said labeling member towards and away from said plurality of holders.

17. An apparatus as recited in Claim 14, further comprising:

first and second driven support members for separately moving said separation member and said labeling member towards and away from said plurality of holders, respectively.

18. An apparatus as recited in Claim 14, further comprising:

a driven support member for moving said plurality of holders along a predetermined path.

19. An apparatus as recited in Claim 18, wherein said driven support member comprises:

a rotatable member.

20. An apparatus as recited in Claim 18, wherein said separation member and said labeling member are disposed for sequential operation along said predetermined path.

21. An apparatus as recited in Claim 14, further comprising:

a processor for storing and providing said contents-related information to said labeling member.

22. An apparatus as recited in Claim 14, wherein said labeling member comprises:

5 a printer for printing said contents-related information on one of labels and said belt segments.